Communussiouing of Gas-based Power Projects

900. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minisier pf ENERGY be pleased h> state:

(a) whether the generation of power from each of the first units of the three gas-based power projects in Anta (Rajasthan), Kawas (Gujarat) and Auraiya (Uttar Pradesh) has kept up with the original plan, if not. what are the reasans therefor; it ad

(b) what remedial steps are contemplated to correct the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). The first units of the three gas-based power projects are scheduled to be commissioned in 24 months from the date of placement of order for main plant and equipment. The remaining units would, thereafter, be commissioned, at intervals of two months each. The first units of the steam turbines are scheduled for commissioning 36 months after placement of order and subsequent tinits at intervals of four months each thereafter.

The projects are expected to be completed as per schedule.

Sagar Pragati jack up rig

901. SHRI SHANKER SINH VApHE-LA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 197 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th November, 1987 and state:

(a) the name of the Company from which the rig 'Sagar Pragati' was purchased and what was the date of expiry of the guarantee;

(b) whether it is a fact that ONGC could have purchased two similar jack up J off-shore drilling rigs with the total foreign exchange spent both on the repair of the rig as well as on the hire charges of a j similar rig;

(c) the total amount paid to officials of ONGC and the crew members of the rig on visits to Dubai for inspection and scrutiny of tenders; and

(d) whether Government propose to institute an enquiry and fix responsibility ?

THE MINISTER OE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The rig 'Sagar Pragati' was purchased by ONGC from CFEM, France. It was delivered to ONGC in October, 1981. The warranty period of the rig was for one year after its purchase.

(b) No, Sir. It was considered more economical to get the damaged rig repaired than to purchase a new one as the repair charges could be claimed against insurance.

(c) 'u S $ 0. 383 Million approximately.

(d) The reasons for development of cracks in the legs of the rig have already been got investigated through M/s. Noble Denton Associates. These cracks resulted from fatigue mechanism caused by cyclic and static stressing which could not be foreseen at the time the unit was delivered and put to use.

Discontinuance of subsidy given to industries in "No Industry Districts"

902. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to discontinue the subsidy given to the industries set up in the "No industry districts";

(b) if so, what are the main reasons for discontinuing the scheme; and

(c) whether Government propose to launch a new scheme to attract entrepreneurs to set up industries in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.